

The extension of the hydro-electric power line to the city of Brandon and the western portion of the province, for commercial and domestic use.

The franchise of the present company supplying electrical power in this city expires in the near future, and the question must, therefore be faced in a very practical fashion.

The extension of the power lines throughout the province was dealt with at the last session of the legislature and a large appropriation was made, but Brandon and the western portion of the province was not included in this appropriation. The reason for this omission, we believe, was the desire of the present government to protect vested interests and mortgage companies in place of furthering the benefits for the common people. The labor party stands for the interests of the people as the paramount duty of the government.

The socialization of industry and capital — The central problem of the social life of the world is the emancipation of the working class from economic and industrial oppression. This problem is not only social and economic but it is fundamentally an ethical demand, calling for the transference of the whole basis of industrial activity from that of self-interest and profits to that of service and use.

The justification for advancing this position is discovered in the demand of the workers for better conditions of life; the severe condemnations of the competitive system which is disclosed by the application of economic principles already made by great trusts; and as well in the revelations of superior efficiency made by rational organization and true co-operation.

Labor Party Platform.

1920

Adopted by the Convention of accredited delegates, numbering over one hundred, on the evening of April 27th, in the City Hall, Brandon.

By voting for the Labor candidate you are giving support to this platform and making possible its achievement.

PREAMBLE.

The calamity of war, by which the world has been caused to suffer, has to a great extent been instrumental in awakening the common people to a new social vision. The effect of the shock of war was not to create new problems, but to hasten the combination of elements by which the old problems reached a crisis, and to awaken multitudes from lethargy and indifference.

In response to the clamant cries of the people for adjustments in the social conditions, forceful declarations have been made on frequent occasions by various distinguished statesmen, setting forth the idea that there had dawned a

new era, and the old world conditions had passed away forever.

Great causes, such as the Labor movement, which have for generations been advancing constitutional efforts to improve conditions and have appealed for support thereof, have been addressed encouragingly, up until recently, and have been urged to make bold to give utterance to their demands and organization to their efforts.

The time has arrived to test the sincerity of old party politicians, and all others, as to their war time attitudes towards the cause of the common people, which finds a voice in the Labor party. The time has come to give an effective expression of sympathy and declared faith, or to stand disclosed as hypocrites and deceivers.

The Labor party have nominated a candidate for the Brandon seat in the Manitoba provincial legislature, and the appeal is hereby made to the electors in this constituency for support in such a fashion that the Labor candidate will be elected.

In all conscience, from the complexion of the war time deliverances of party men and party newspapers, the Labor candidate should be elected by acclamation; but that may be too much to expect, nevertheless it is surely a justifiable expectation, on the basis of good faith, that he will be victorious at the polls.

The introduction of Vocational Training into the secondary schools.

Our children look to the school to fit them for the many duties of life. Let them not be disappointed. To this end we must construct such educational policies and employ such materials and methods as shall make the school a true picture of life outside in all its essential activities. To accomplish this we must introduce vocational studies freely, not only for their pedagogic influence, but for their own sake and for the professional skill and creative energy they will give the learner. We must do this, too, without excluding the non-professional either from the school or from the individual.

Further, we believe there should be established a school Literature Bureau, through which the school books and other supplies would be furnished to the pupils in the public schools at cost price.

The Labor party stands for the adoption of the principles of collective bargaining in all dealings between employer and employee.

By this term, "collective bargaining," it is understood to signify:—

1. The right of the employees to organize into a union for self-protection and self-improvement;
2. The right to affiliate with any central body or group, or become part of an industrial organization which may commend itself to the judgment as progressive and sound in principle;
3. The right to be recognized as a union and to negotiate through their chosen representatives whether members of the union or otherwise.

The enforcement of a national minimum of living which will ensure to every member of the community all the requisites of healthy life and worthy citizenship. Legislation along this line would include Workmen's Compensation Act, mothers' pensions, etc.